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Release

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PUBLIC FACT SHEET

Subject: Commerce Licensing of Satellites for Launch in China

- o The missile proliferation sanctions law for a Category II violation requires that licenses be denied for the export of equipment or technology on the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) list for the sanctioned entities for two years.
- o Satellites are not on the MTCR list, but satellites typically contain items on the MTCR list. Some satellites are licensed by the State Department, and some satellites are licensed by the Commerce Department.
- o An approach has been approved that recognizes the difference between Commerce and State licensing practices and authorities.
- o As a consequence, commercial communication satellites under the jurisdiction of the Department of Commerce are not subject to the Category II missile proliferation sanctions, and may be approved.
- o Communication satellites under the Department of State jurisdiction remain subject to the missile sanctions law and licenses will be denied.
- o This decision allows Commerce to resume the processing of three pending license applications for satellites to be launched from China.
- o All U.S. satellite exports to China are still subject to the 1991 Tiananmen Square sanctions and require a Presidential waiver to receive an export license.

*Not public yet, but okay.
for telephone conversations -*